



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

ent with a policy of *laissez faire*. He approves, as might be expected from a Swiss citizen, of factory legislation and, very decidedly, of state education: he advocates the state ownership of railways and other "natural monopolies." He looks upon the state ownership of land and the abolition of individual speculation in ground-values not merely as an ideal of "absolute ethics," but as a practical reform to be worked for in the near future. He admits the difficulties; but in an interesting calculation he shows that, if the Swiss government were to purchase at its market value all the land (the sites of towns included) in Switzerland, the transaction would probably be a profitable one to the community; since, if there is a continuance of peace in Europe, rent will rise and interest will fall. A great European war, by raising interest, would, he admits, make the transaction disastrous to the state. In suggesting that the state might compete as an economic producer with "trusts" and companies, Dr. Bösch makes a much more questionable proposal (p. 225). Would it be fair to the taxpayers to make them take the risk of competition? A good deal of the argument in the book is of more directly economic than ethical interest,—though it is right to keep the two aspects together. On the whole, this disciple of Mr. Spencer approves a very considerable amount of collectivism, though he entirely rejects the communistic ideal of equal sharings of unequal earnings. The authors, besides Mr. Spencer, who are most frequently referred to are Hume and John Stuart Mill. Buckle and Huxley are also quoted. It is odd that a writer, evidently familiar with English social and economic works, should refer to Malthus as a *Scotch* clergyman.

DAVID G. RITCHIE.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS, SCOTLAND.

GOVERNMENT AND PARTIES IN CONTINENTAL EUROPE. By A. Lawrence Lowell. 2 vols. 8vo. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1897. Price, \$5.

The intrinsic merits of the work of Mr. Lowell give but an inadequate measure of the significance of these two volumes. Judged from the stand-point of the method of political science, they represent a departure from the traditional line of research; a new tendency which promises to give us a clearer and truer view of the development of political institutions. The dominance of the Austinian school threatened to reduce the science of politics to a barren dialecticism. The influence of biology on the social

sciences, together with the emphasis of the subjective or psychological basis of social life, have given us a new school of political science, or rather a new method of treating political phenomena. The purely legal discussions which characterize the writings of Austin and his followers are gradually being supplanted by a study of the actual working of the various forms of government and an analysis of the ideas and ideals which furnish the motive power to political action. Political institutions are examined primarily with reference to their function and, secondarily, with reference to their form. Thus the established order is reversed. If any further doubts as to the fruitfulness of this method of research still exist, Mr. Lowell's book will quickly set them at rest. He has given us a clear and dispassionate description of the conditions of political life in the countries of Continental Europe. From the vast amount of material thus collected the author has drawn comparatively few conclusions. In fact, the failure to draw such conclusions is the only important defect of the work. No doubt the relation of descriptive analysis to philosophical discussion was carefully weighed by the author. One cannot help but regret that the decision was unfavorable to the latter. The value of the work would thus have been greatly enhanced.

A comparative study of the actual working of political institutions, of the status of political opinion and the activity of political parties in the countries of Western Europe demonstrates the necessity of great care and caution in the use of the fundamental terms of political science. In no other field of human thought has there been anything like the same confusion of terms. A still greater danger is the tendency to reason from terms rather than from facts, to meet a complex political problem with a formula rather than with an impartial examination of the requirements of the case. Mr. Lowell gives us ample material to judge of the unfortunate effects of this tendency. We are here face to face with one of the weak points in contemporaneous political life. In the United States we probably suffer less in this respect than other nations. France offers the most conspicuous example of the influence of political catchwords, phrases, and formulæ. The electorate must be constantly fed with high sounding phrases in which the words "*liberté*," "*égalité*," and "*solidarité*"—which latter term seems to have supplanted "*fraternité*"—must occupy an important place. Propositions which would otherwise receive but little recognition, or even arouse antagonism, are swallowed when sufficiently sugar-coated.

It is only necessary to read the declaration of principles issued by candidates for office. It is safe to say that seventy-five per cent., when reduced to lowest terms, mean absolutely nothing. The possibility of juggling with terms stands in inverse ratio to the level of political education of the people. The ability to distinguish the important from the unimportant in politics, to separate the practicable from the utopian, has scarcely been developed in France. The tendency to remain content with pure generalities is characteristic of political infancy. The reaction of this state of public opinion upon the constitution and activity of political parties is admirably described by the author. The difficulty of grouping political sentiment about great practical questions of policy leads to the splitting up of parties into a great number of groups, each with its particular catchword.

In the discussion of political parties, the author gives us an extremely suggestive analysis of the differences in interests represented in different countries. The distinction between the horizontal and vertical division of political society explains many of the most complex phenomena of political life. Where the line of division of political parties corresponds to the dividing line of social classes, the conditions for the success of popular government are lacking. On the other hand, where political development has led to the fusion of classes and even the disappearance of strictly class lines in the formation of political parties, the conditions requisite for that form of association and co-operation between classes indispensable to popular government are assured. Within the limits of a review, it is only possible to touch upon one or two of the many interesting questions discussed by the author. A work of this importance, which for the first time gives us an inside view of political activity in Europe, deserves to be carefully read by every one interested in political progress.

L. S. ROWE.

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

JUVENILE OFFENDERS. By W. D. Morrison. London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1897.

It is very desirable that greater interest should be taken by the community in general in the large and varied class of children dealt with in this book. It appears most opportunely, for the Commission on Reformatories and Industrial Schools has issued its report, and the subject may now be thoroughly studied by whoso will